

Cuyahoga Valley National Park 15610 Vaughn Road Brecksville OH 44141

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Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release - Monday, March 19, 2007 Mary Pat Doorley, (440) 546-5995, (440) 343-7355 (cell) or mary_pat_doorley@nps.gov

National Park Service Hosts Listening Session on \$3 Billion National Park Centennial Initiative

Brecksville, Ohio - On March 26, 2007, from 5 to 8 p.m., the National Park Service (NPS) will host a listening session at Happy Days Visitor Center in Cuyahoga Valley National Park to seek suggestions and ideas on President Bush's \$3 billion National Park Centennial Initiative. The session is one in a series that are being held around the country. The President's proposal would provide significant new public and private investment during the next ten years to reinvigorate and strengthen national parks by the National Park Service's 100th birthday in 2016.

Participants are being asked to focus their comments on three vital questions:

- ? Imagine you, your children, or future generations enjoying national parks in 2016 and beyond. What are your hopes and expectations?
- ? What role do you think national parks should play in the lives of Americans and visitors from around the world?
- ? What are the signature projects and programs that you think should be highlighted for completion over the next 10 years?

"These sessions are a great opportunity to think big and act boldly to develop a plan to prepare national parks for the future," said NPS Director Mary Bomar. From the session discussions, the NPS will identify signature projects and programs, set specific performance goals and report to the President by May 31st. The public also may comment on the National Park Centennial Initiative now until April 2 online at the following site: www.nps.gov/2016.

The format of the Listening Session will be similar to other National Park Service Open Houses, where participants will have the opportunity to rotate among three stations, one for each of the questions, to provide their comments to a facilitator. All comments will be recorded.

Happy Days Visitor Center is located on 500 W. Streetsboro Road (SR 303), Peninsula, Ohio 44264, 1 mile west of SR 8.

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